



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration

MP&E SAFETY STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANUAL

The information provided, herein, by the Motive Power and Equipment (MP&E) Division prescribes guidance for Federal and State MP&E Inspectors that engage in inspections, investigative reviews, surveillance, and oversight related to railroad equipment (passenger and freight cars and motive power) to assure railroad and industry compliance with Federal laws and safety regulations, orders and standards issued by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). The intent of this manual is to achieve uniform understanding and enforcement of the equipment regulations by all MP&E Inspectors.

The MP&E Safety Standards Compliance Manual with this publication is being placed on FRA's web page on the Internet for the very first time and industry representatives are encouraged to use the contents contained, herein, to answer questions and ascertain FRA's perspective on equipment enforcement issues. The MP&E Safety Standards Compliance Manual is located at: www.fra.dot.gov/safety/mp&manual.htm

This manual is the property of the FRA and is intended primarily for the use of its MP&E Inspectors. The contents of this manual may be revoked or modified without prior notice at any time by the FRA. This manual supercedes all previous MP&E Enforcement Manuals. Inquiries related to this manual should be directed to the Staff Director Motive Power and Equipment Division as noted below.

George A. Cavalla
Associate Administrator of Safety

Edward W. Pritchard
Director Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance

Ronald R. Newman
Staff Director Motive Power and Equipment Division: (202) 493-624

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Motive Power and Equipment Compliance Manual represents the combined efforts of MP&E Inspectors and Regional MP&E Specialists, who are subject matter experts, working with the MP&E Headquarters Staff Specialists and MP&E Mechanical Engineers to develop the guidance and supporting materials necessary to produce this Manual.

The following FRA personnel contributed to the development and writing of this Manual:

Dale Berger	Paul Furman	Ron Newman
Joe Berry	Gary Groff	Mike O'Brien
Charlie Bielitz	Tom Herrmann	George Scerbo
Tom Blankenship	Art Johnson	Ken Sellers
Steve Carullo	Lou Klein	Satya Singh
Rob Castiglione	Fred Lenard	Richard Thomas
Bill Chisholm	Levoy Little	Joe Vukson
Dave Doncoes	Tom Lutz	Norm Wilson
Gary Fairbanks	David Mao	James Wilson
Ralph Forney	Fred McGrath	Wayne Wilson
Horace Franklin	Mike Micek	

Equally important to the development of this Manual is the oversight and guidance provided by the MP&E Division Staff Director, Mr. Ron Newman, and Mr. Tom Herrmann, from Chief Counsel's Office.

Consultants to the Manual included: Messrs. David Brooks, Dan Buckley, Levoy Little, Leon Smith, and Ms. Peggy Ellis.

A special "Thank You" goes to James Wilson of the Headquarter's MP&E Division Staff, who was the principal editor/assembler of the MP&E Compliance Manual.

A special "Thank You" also goes to the Associate Administrator for Safety, Mr. George Gavalla, and the Director for Safety Assurance and Compliance, Mr. Ed Pritchard, for their leadership and commitment which made this Manual possible.